

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) Cable comprising:
 - at least two elongated elements chosen from the group of steel tubes, optical fibre cables, electrical cables, and combinations thereof; arranged side by side within a common outer cover along the length of the line; and
 - wherein at least one of the elongated elements has a passive metal outer surface, said outer cover allowing entrance of corrosive agent to the interstices between elements, wherein at least one of the elements with passive metal outer surface is provided with an outer layer formed of a material with open structure for water passage and having controlled thickness.
2. (withdrawn) Cable according to claim 1, wherein said outer layer is of fibrous material.
3. (withdrawn) Cable according to claim 2, wherein said outer layer (1A, 2A) is of woven material.

4. (withdrawn) Cable according to claim 2, wherein the fibrous material of the outer layer (1A, 2A) is chosen among synthetic fibres such as polyester, polyamide or combination of these materials.

5. (withdrawn) Cable according to claim 2, wherein the fibrous material of the outer layer (1A, 2A) is chosen among natural fibres such as cotton or other plant fibres or wool.

6. (currently amended) Cable according to claim 1, wherein said outer layer is of a ~~non-fibrous~~ material with ~~evenly~~ distributed voids.

7. (previously presented) Cable according to claim 1, wherein said outer layer consists of a tape wound around the surface of the said element with passive metal outer surface.

8. (withdrawn) Cable according to claim 1, wherein said outer layer consists of a tape arranged longitudinally along the surface of the said element with passive metal outer surface.

9. (previously presented) Cable according to claim 1, wherein said outer layer has a minimum thickness of 0.1 mm.

Application No. 10/826,146
Amendment dated March 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated February 14, 2005

10. (previously presented) Subsea line according to claim 1, wherein said corrosive agent is seawater.